

Federal Election Commission

§ 9008.2

PART 9008—FEDERAL FINANCING OF PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING CONVENTIONS

Subpart A—Expenditures by National Committees and Convention Committees

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AUTHORITY: 2 U.S.C. 437, 438(a)(8), 441i; 26 U.S.C. 9008, 9009(b).

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Subpart A—Expenditures by National Committees and Convention Committees

§ 9008.1 Scope.

(a) This part interprets 2 U.S.C. 437 and 26 U.S.C. 9008. Under 26 U.S.C. 9008(b), the national committees of both major and minor parties are entitled to public funds to defray expenses incurred with respect to a Presidential Nominating convention. Under 26 U.S.C. 9008(d), expenditures with regard

to such a convention by a national committee receiving public funds are limited to \$4,000,000, as adjusted by the Consumer Price Index. New parties are not entitled to receive any public funds to defray convention expenses.

(b) Under 2 U.S.C. 437, each committee or organization which represents a national party in making arrangements for that party's presidential nominating convention is required to file disclosure reports. This reporting obligation extends to all such committees or organizations, regardless of whether or not public funds are used or available to defray convention expenses.

§ 9008.2 Definitions.

(a) *Commission* means the Federal Election Commission, 999 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20463.

(b) *Fund* means the Presidential Election Campaign Fund established by 26 U.S.C. 9006(a).

(c) *Major party* means, with respect to any presidential election, a political party whose candidate for the office of President in the preceding presidential election received, as the candidate of such party, 25 percent or more of the total number of popular votes received by all candidates for such office.

(d) *Minor party* means, with respect to any presidential election, a political party whose candidate for the office of President in the preceding presidential election received, as the candidate of such party, 5 percent or more, but less than 25 percent, of the total number of popular votes received by all candidates for such office.

(e) *National committee* means the organization which, by virtue of the by-laws of the political party, is responsible for the day to day operation of that party at the national level.

(f) *New party* means, with respect to any presidential election, a political party which is neither a major party nor a minor party.

(g) *Nominating convention* means a convention, caucus or other meeting which is held by a political party at the national level and which chooses the presidential nominee of the party through selection by delegates to that convention or through other similar means.

(h) *Secretary* means the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.

§ 9008.3 Eligibility for payments; registration and reporting.

(a) *Eligibility requirements.* (1) To qualify for entitlement under 11 CFR 9008.4 and 9008.5, the national committee of a major or minor political party shall establish a convention committee pursuant to paragraph (a)(2) of this section and shall file an application statement pursuant to paragraph (a)(3) of this section. The convention committee, in conjunction with the national committee, shall file an agreement to comply with the conditions set forth at paragraph (a)(4) of this section.

(2) The national committee shall establish a convention committee which shall be responsible for conducting the day to day arrangements and operations of that party's presidential nominating convention. The convention committee shall register with the Commission as a political committee pursuant to 11 CFR part 102. The convention committee shall receive all public funds to which the national committee is entitled under 11 CFR 9008.4 and 9008.5 and all private contributions made for the purpose of defraying convention expenses. All expenditures on behalf of the national committee for convention expenses shall be made by the convention committee.

(3) The national committee shall file with the Commission an application statement. Any changes in the information provided in the application statement must be reported to the Commission within 10 days following the change. The application statement shall include:

- (i) The name and address of the national committee;
- (ii) The name and address of the convention committee and of the officers of that committee;
- (iii) The name of the city where the convention is to be held and the approximate dates;
- (iv) The name, address, and position of the convention committee officers designated by the national committee to sign requests for payments; and
- (v) The name and address of the depository of the convention committee.

(4) The convention committee shall, by letter to the Commission, agree to the conditions set forth in paragraph (a)(4) (i) through (viii) of this section. This agreement shall also be binding upon the national committee.

(i) The convention committee shall agree to comply with the applicable expenditure limitation set forth at 11 CFR 9008.8.

(ii) The convention committee shall agree to file convention reports as required under 2 U.S.C. 437 and 11 CFR 9008.3(b).

(iii) The convention committee shall agree to establish one or more accounts into which all public funds received under 11 CFR 9008.4 and 9008.5 must be deposited and from which all expenditures for convention expenses must be made. Such account(s) shall contain only public funds except as provided in 11 CFR 9008.6(a)(3).

(iv) The convention committee shall agree to keep and furnish to the Commission all documentation of convention disbursements made by the committee as required under 11 CFR 9008.10. The convention committee has the burden of proving that disbursements by the convention committee were for purposes of defraying convention expenses as set forth at 11 CFR 9008.7(a)(4).

(v) The convention committee shall agree to furnish to the Commission any books, records (including bank records for all accounts), a copy of any contract which the national committee enters into with a host committee or convention city or vendor, a copy of documentation provided by commercial vendors in accordance with 11 CFR 9008.9(b), and any other information that the Commission may request. If the convention committee maintains or uses computerized information containing any of the categories of data listed in 11 CFR 9008.10(h)(1) (i) through (iv), the convention committee will provide computerized magnetic media, such as magnetic tapes or magnetic diskettes, containing the computerized information at the times specified in 11 CFR 9008.10(h)(2) that meet the requirements of 11 CFR 102.9 and 9008.10 (a) and (b). Upon request, documentation explaining the computer system's software capabilities shall be provided, and